

October 26, 2011

The Honorable Wayne Schmidt State Representative P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Rep. Schmidt:

Thank you for taking up HB 5002 which would reform Michigan's Workers' Compensation Act. You have shown tremendous leadership by listening to all sides of the debate and carving out reasonable and needed reform.

Citizens Management Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Citizens Insurance Company of America, a Michigan-based business, founded in 1915 which employs approximately 1,000 employees in the State of Michigan. CMI is a third-party administrator working with employers that self-insure their workers' compensation. In this capacity, we are one of the largest WC claim adjudicators in the state, representing over 4,000 employers.

You have heard testimony from opponents who would lead you to believe House Bill 5002 would make it more difficult for injured workers to receive wage loss benefits and the quality medical care they need. This is not accurate. House Bill 5002 promotes efficiency and clarity to sections of the current workers' compensation act, preventing unnecessary litigation.

We support House Bill 5002 as it creates a win-win situation for all stakeholders by clarifying Michigan's Workers' Compensation Act. Employers want to see to it that their employees receive quality medical care and are able to return to productive employment. Employees want to receive the best medical care available, and also return to gainful employment. We believe that House Bill 5002 achieves these goals.

Thank you again for giving this important issue the attention it deserves. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this with me personally, please give me a call at 517-540-3177.

Sincerely,

Scott W. Gaffner President, CMI

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